

Remarks :

Please note that although the Examiner indicates the limitations in claims 1, 12, 14 necessary for overcoming Haas et al etc, including "said software desired to be protected being licensed to said rightful user(s)", in the above amendments, it is being replaced by a new limitation which indicates the software desired to be protected as "publicly distributed". The new limitation should be more preferable because eliminates the ambiguous of the term "license" and it better defines the nature of the software desired to be protected — no personal information.

Please also note that **claim 20 as amended** now recites a method comprising a sub-method which after recognizing (refer to step (a)) a first processing apparatus meeting an "installation" pre-condition, will thereafter permit software to be used on the recognized processing apparatus, "without the "installation" pre-condition being met". Further, the sub-method is capable of being used for recognising another processing apparatus also meeting the "installation" pre-condition, **without a step relating to a new user payment therefor**.

This amendment make claim 20 better defined and more technically distinguishable from prior art. It contains no new matter :

The "installation" pre-condition requires "identity information being specific to a user and capable of being used in enabling electronic commerce operation(s) for

which the user has to be responsible", presents in a processing apparatus.

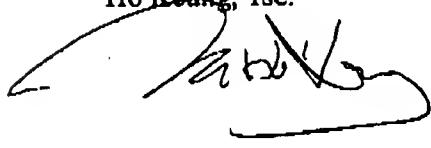
The phrase "capable of being used" therein implies that if the "identity information" is password protected or the like, then the protection have to be removed by entry of user password in order to meet the "installation" pre-condition. This is readable on the original filed specification P.7, last paragraph-P.9, second paragraph. Particularly, in P.7, last paragraph lines 1,2, it is readable thereon that "when the central program is being installed in a harddisk of a user computer and executed"— The execution of the central program, and further execution of the EI sub-program (P.5,section 2) therein which corresponds to "identity information" of claim 20 as amended, requires entry of user password, for details pls refer to the description, P.4, section 1, subsection a).

The new limitation "without the installation pre-condition being met" for permitting use of said software desired to be protected on the recognized processing apparatus (step d), simply means that either the identity information not present in the recognized processing apparatus or being password protected or the like and therefore not capable of being used.

The application should be allowable and is respectfully requested.

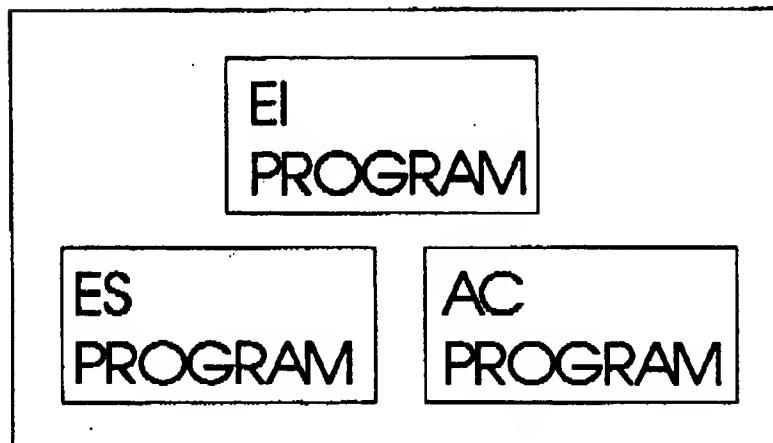
Respectfully submitted,

Ho Keung, Tsc.

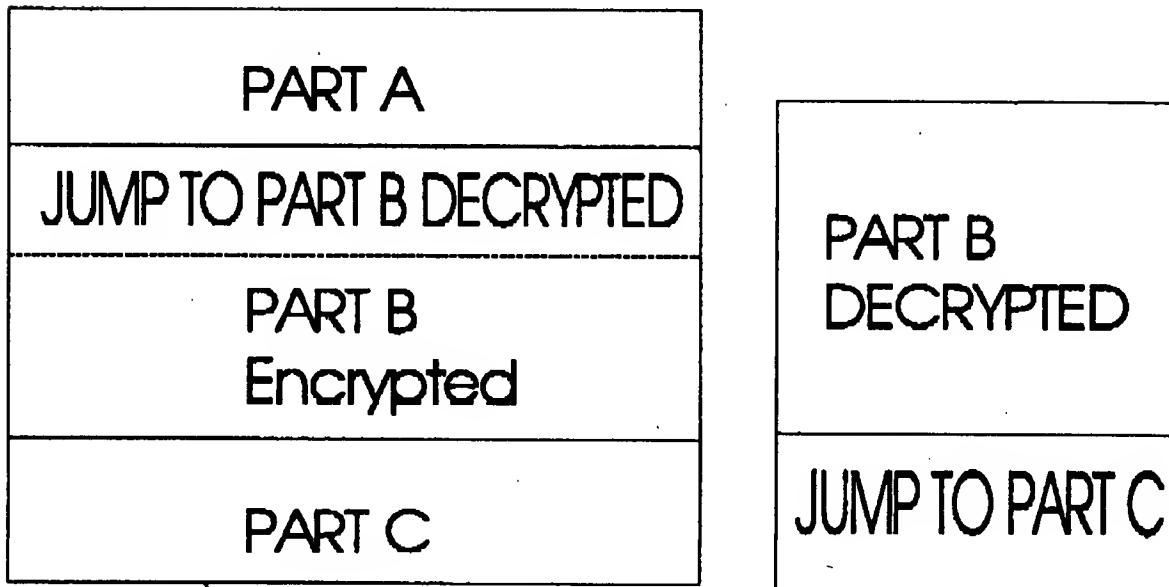


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FIG.1

THE
CENTRAL
PROGRAM

FIG.2

PROGRAM